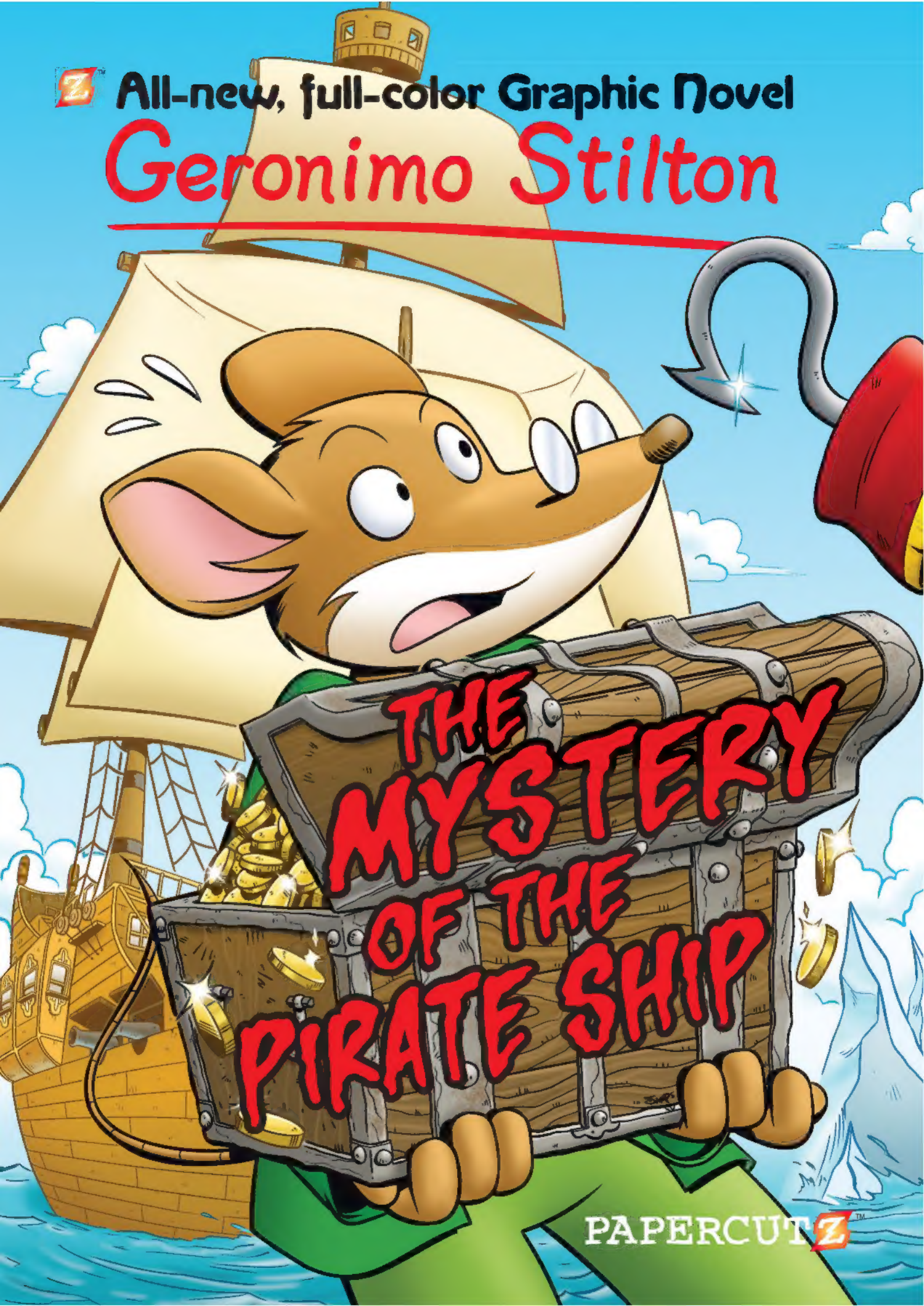




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THE MYSTERY OF THE PIRATE SHIP

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Geronimo Stilton

THE MYSTERY OF THE PIRATE SHIP

By Geronimo Stilton



GERONIMO STILTON #17
THE MYSTERY OF THE PIRATE SHIP

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Based on an original idea by Elisabetta Dami

www.geronimostilton.com

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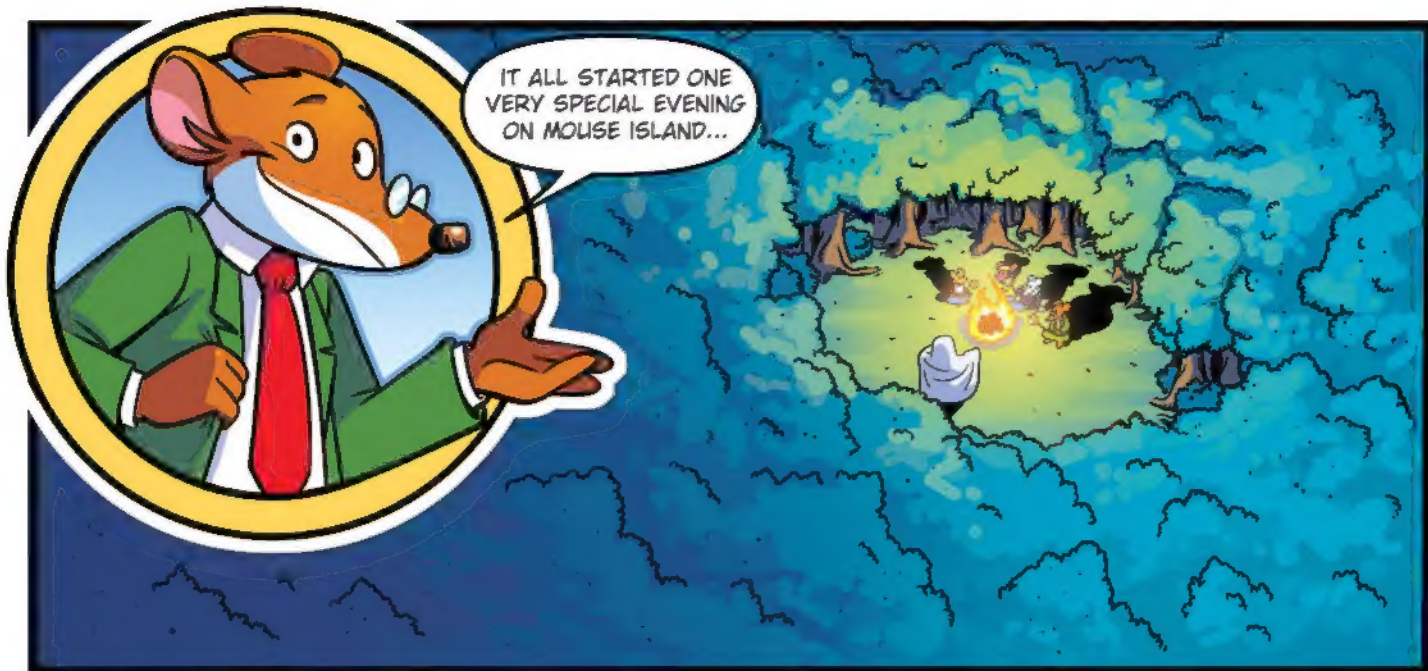
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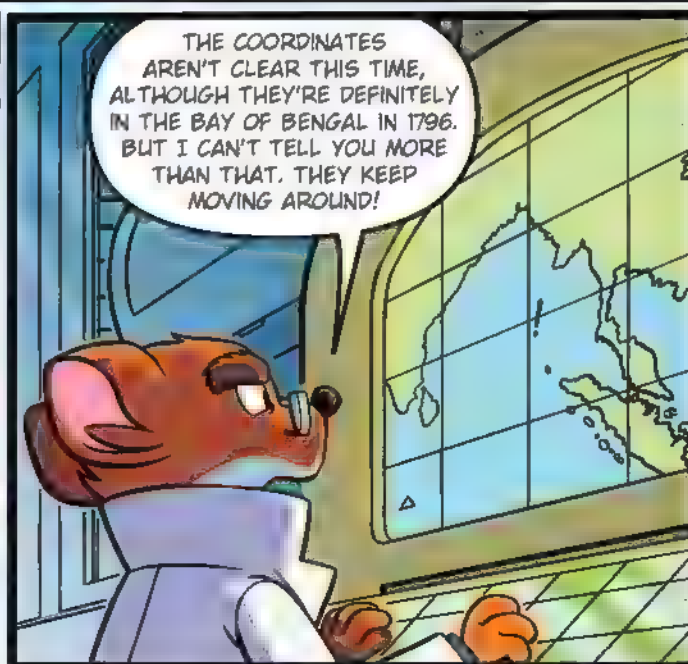
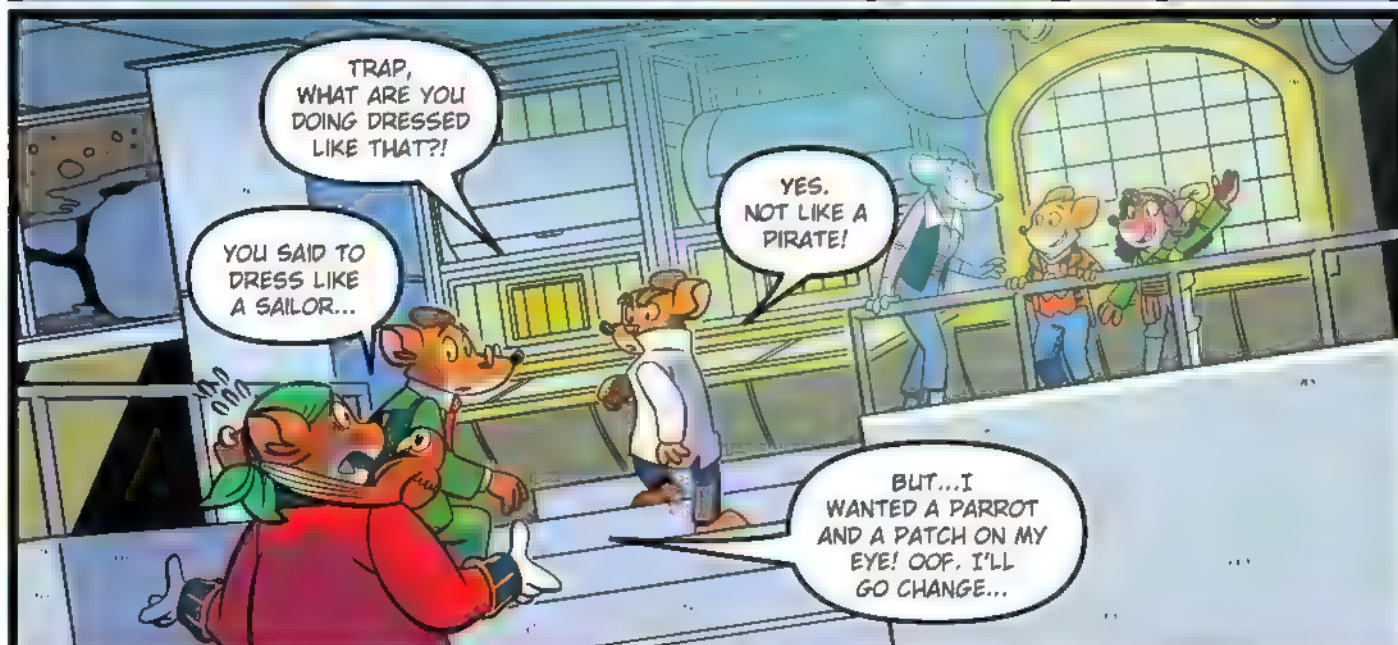
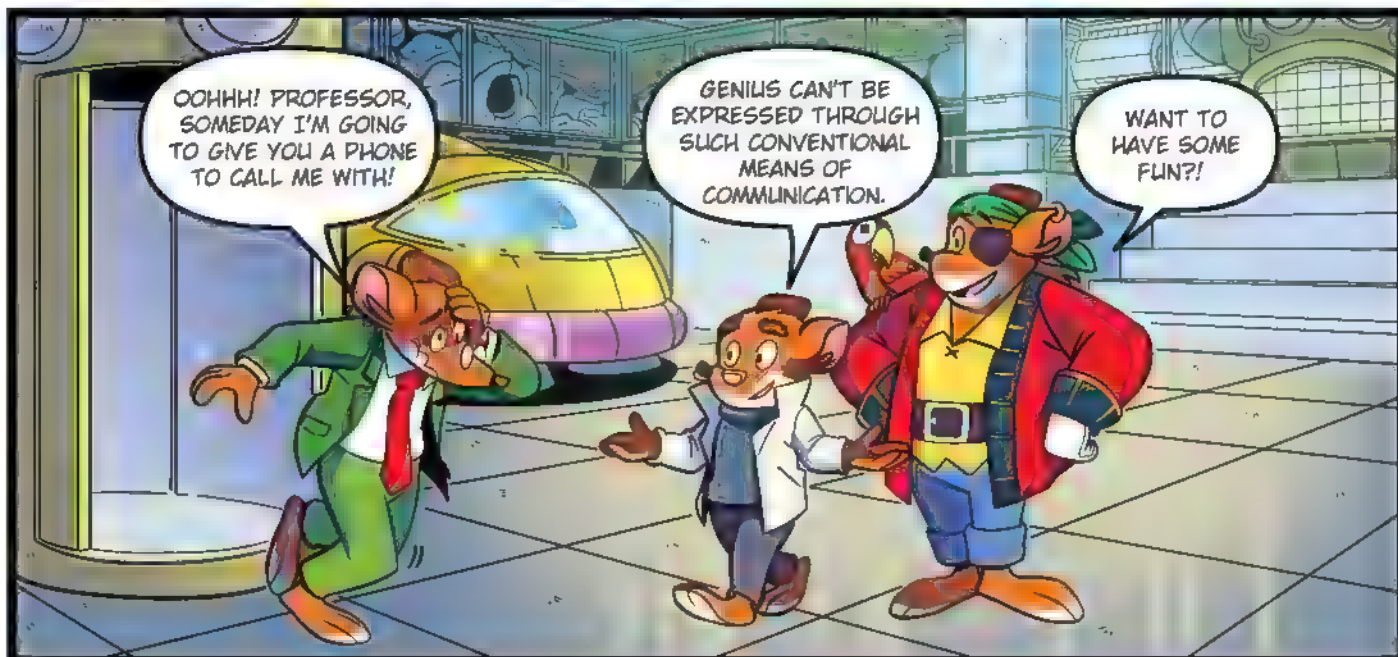


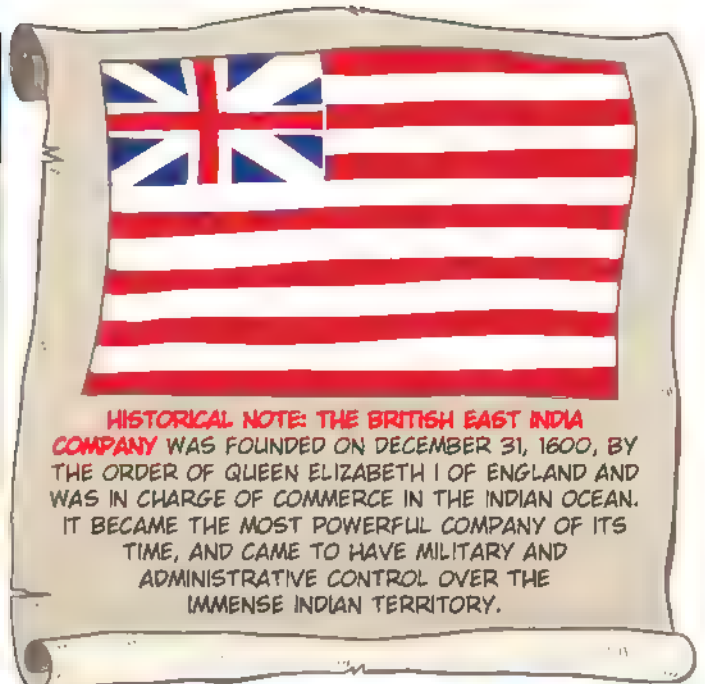










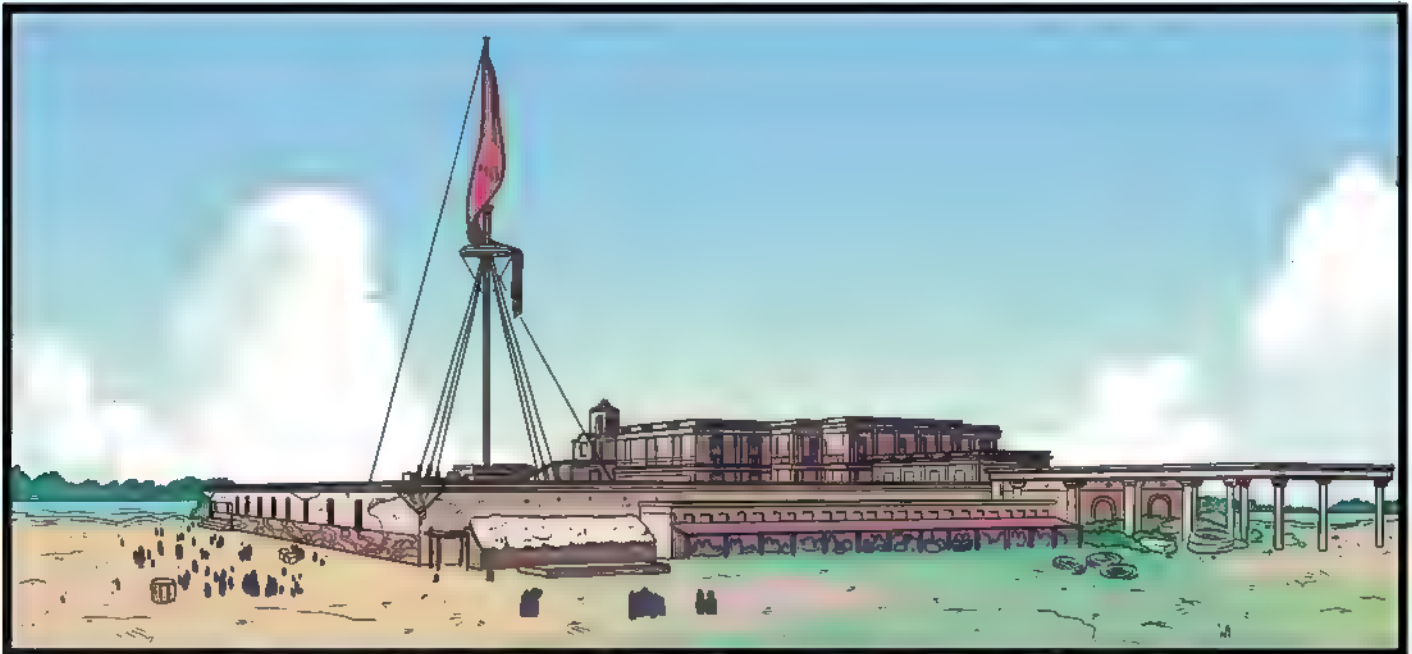


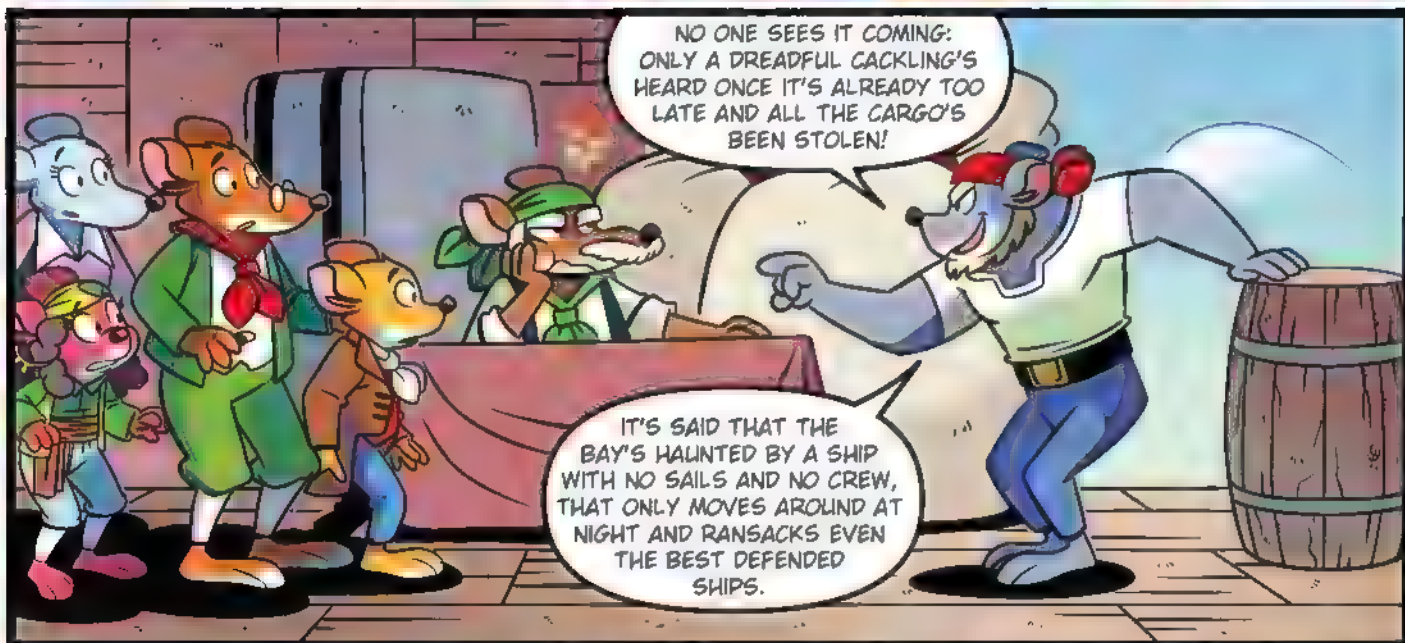
MADRAS, 1796.



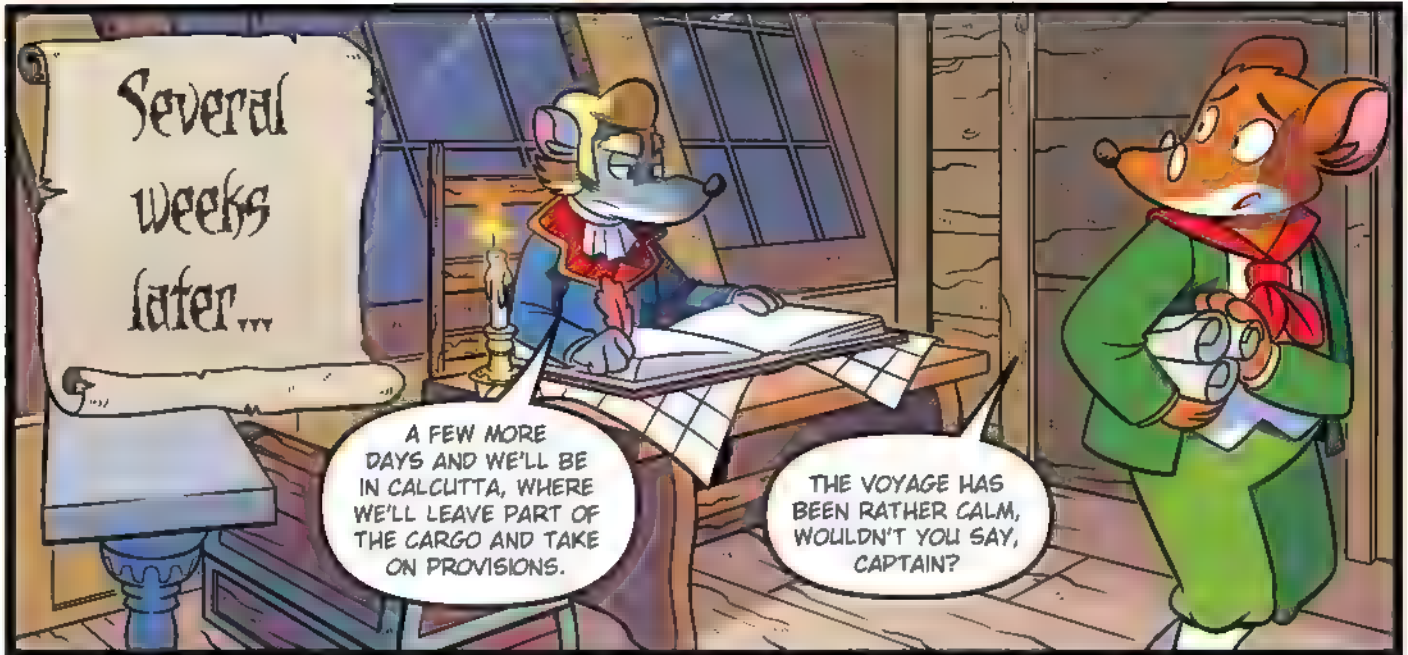
THE TEMPOGRAPH SHOWED MADRAS AS THE DEPARTURE POINT FOR OUR INVESTIGATION. LET'S FIND A QUIET PLACE TO HIDE THE **SPEEDRAT** AND GET STARTED!

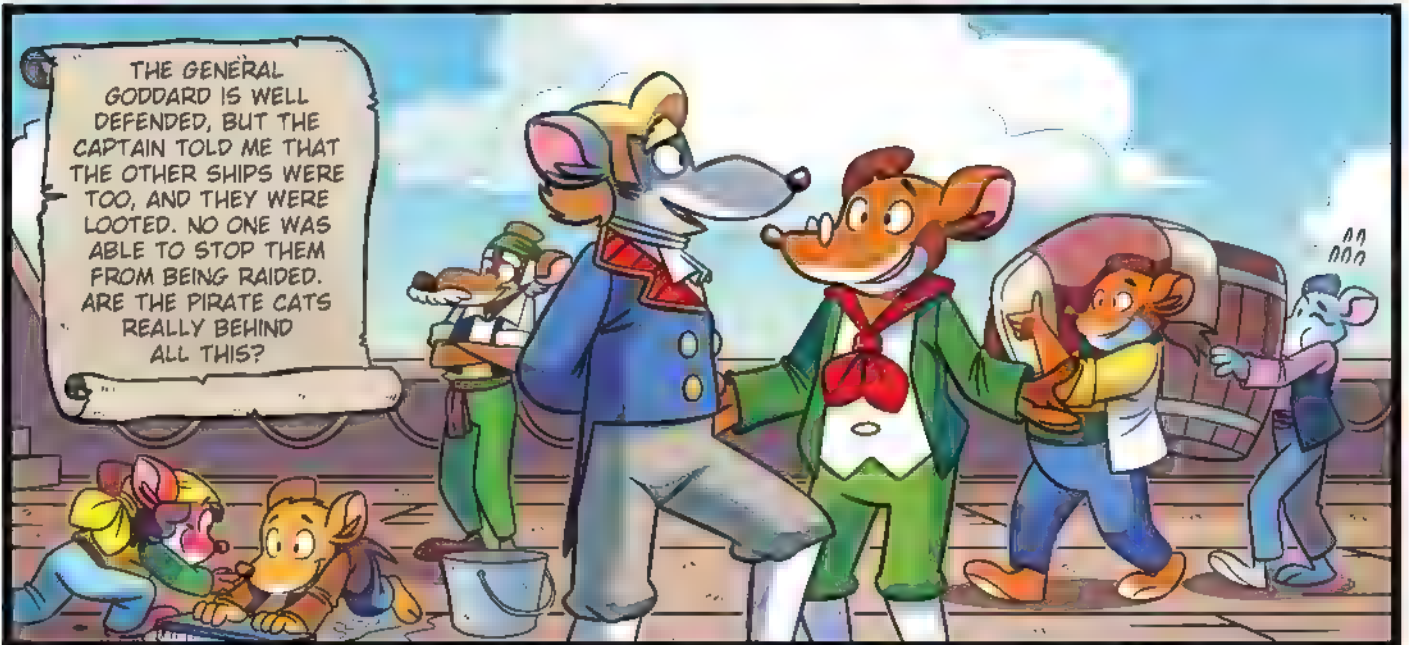
HISTORICAL NOTE:
AT THE END OF THE 18TH CENTURY, **MADRAS** (TODAY CALLED CHENNAI) WAS A MAJOR COMMERCIAL CENTER AND AN IMPORTANT NAVAL HUB FROM EUROPE TO THE ORIENT. UNDER BRITISH RULE, THE CITY DEVELOPED FROM FORT ST. GEORGE AND BECAME THE CAPITAL OF THE INDIAN TERRITORY OF TAMIL NADU.

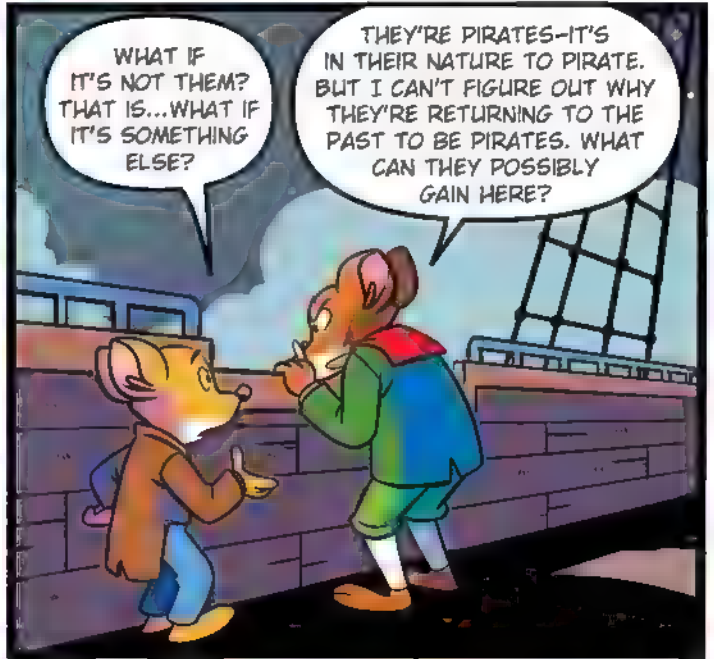
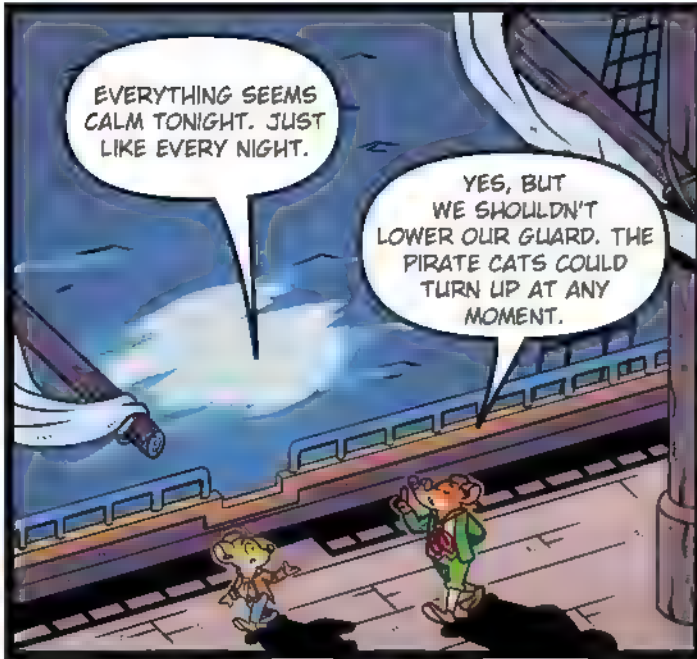


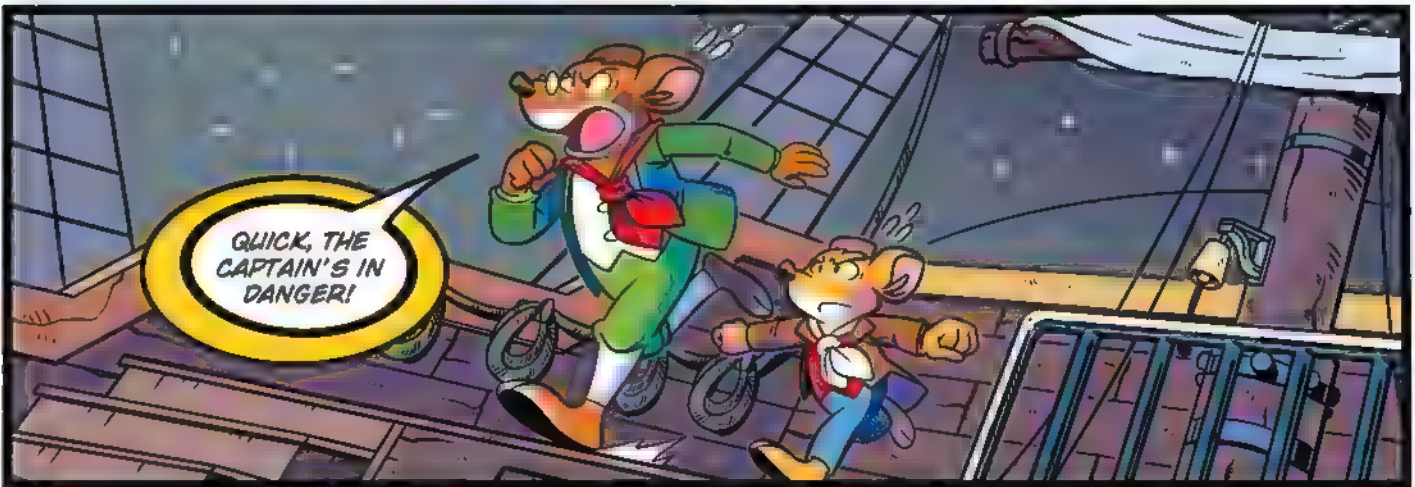




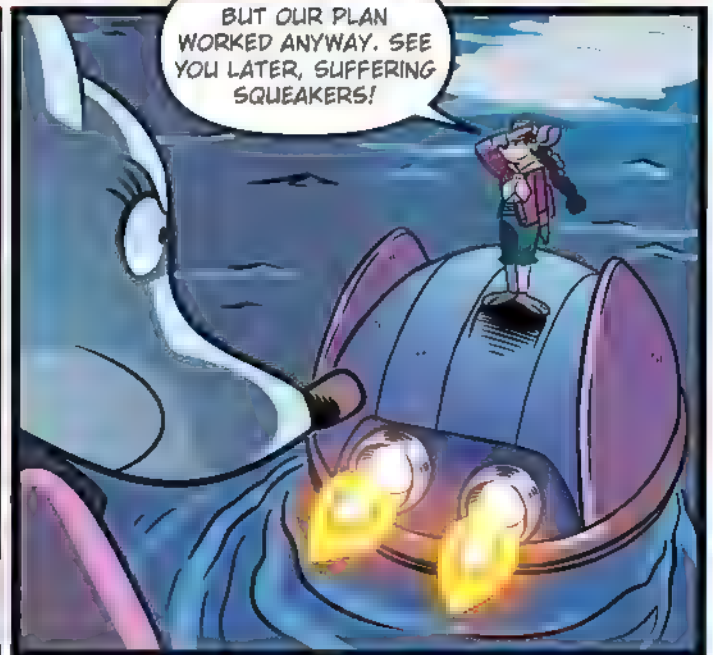
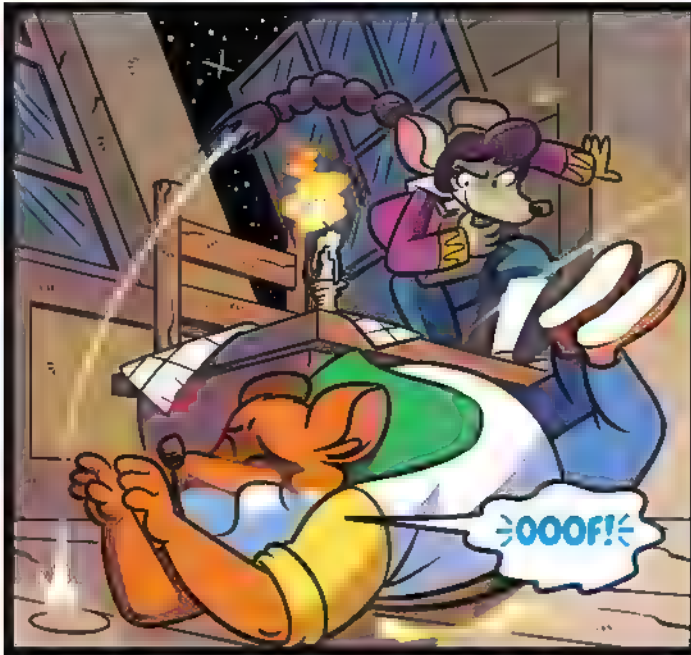


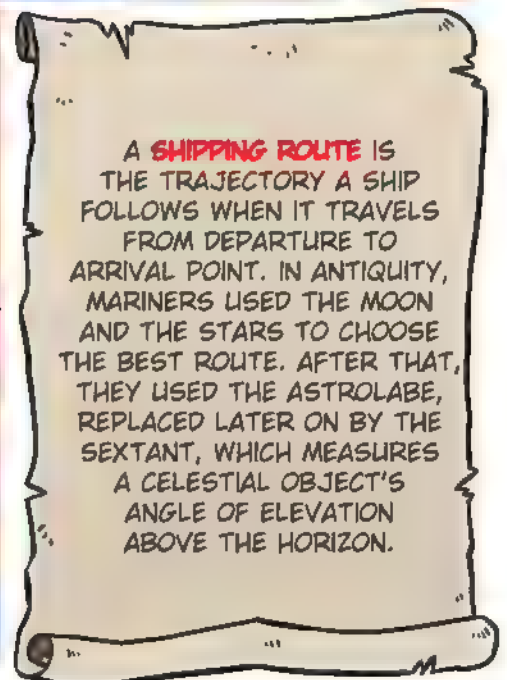
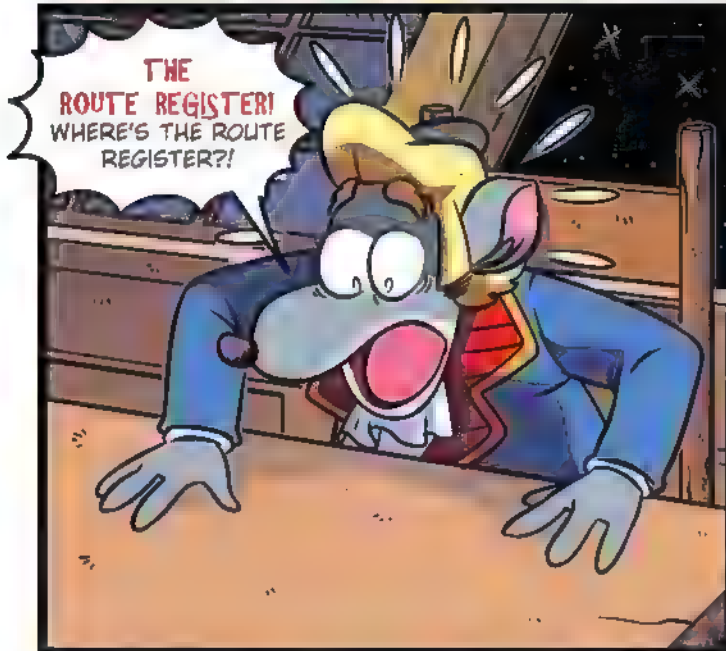
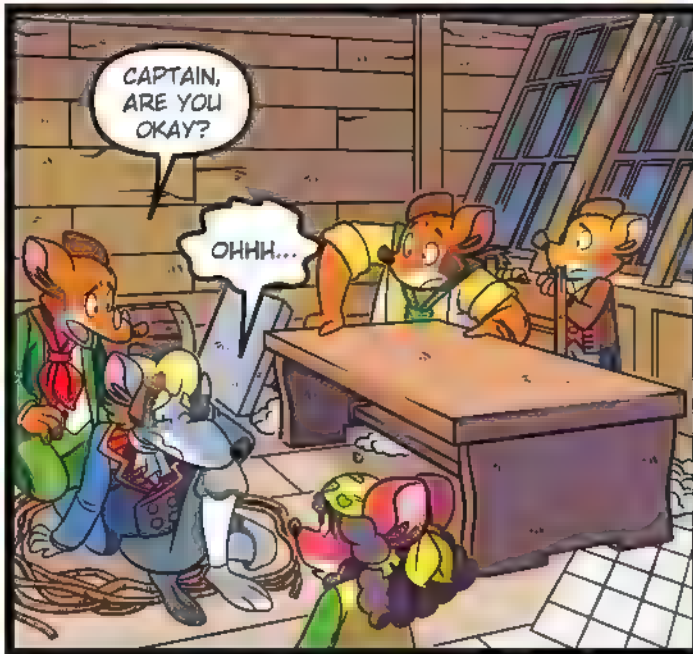


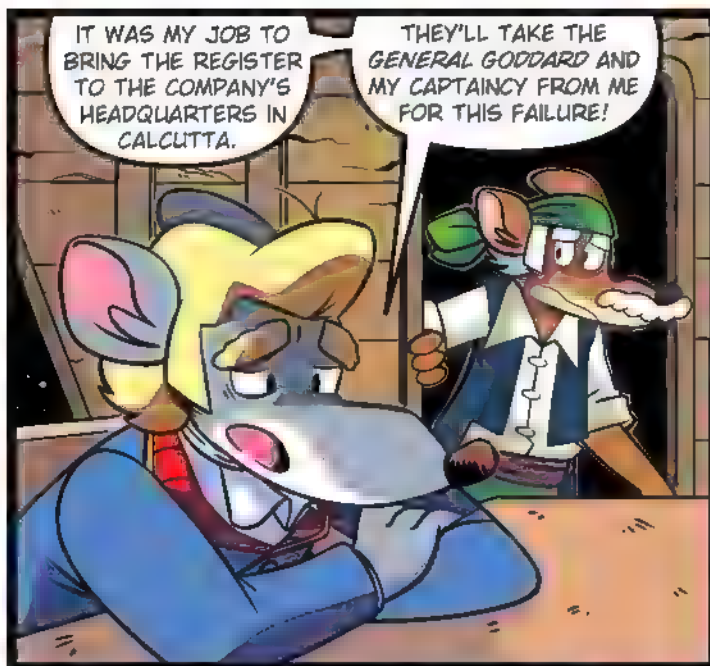












IN THE MEANTIME, THE PIRATE CATS
HAD RETURNED TO CALCUTTA AND
WERE CELEBRATING THE NEW
BOOTY THEY'D STOLEN.



NOW WE'LL KNOW THE
EXACT ROUTES AND CARGO
OF ALL THE SHIPS.

WE WON'T HAVE TO
SEARCH AROUND
RANDOMLY...



YES, DADDY, BUT BEFORE
OUR NEXT STRIKE, WE HAVE
TO RETURN TO THE PRESENT.
THE CATJET IS ALMOST OUT
OF GAS, AND WE HAVE
TO REFUEL.



ONE LAST STRIKE!
WE HAVE SO MUCH
INFORMATION, AND WE
HAVE ENOUGH FUEL
FOR ONE LAST
STRIKE!

HMM...

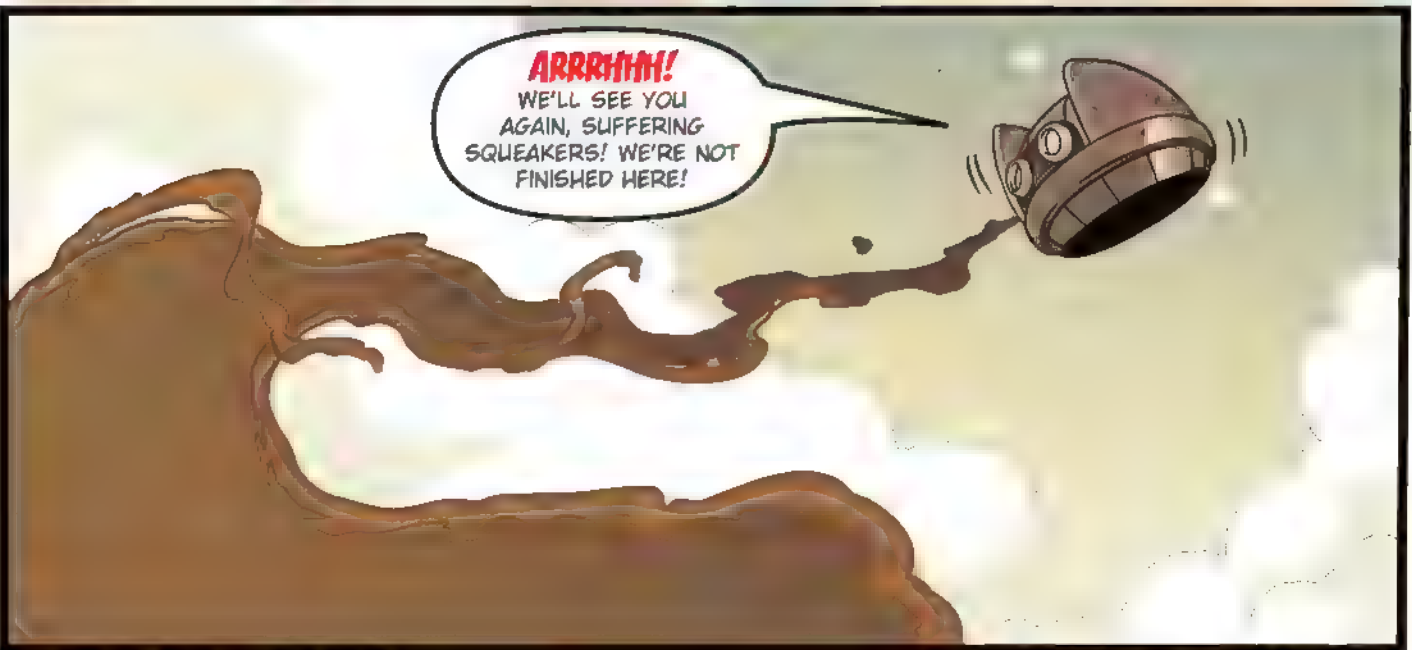
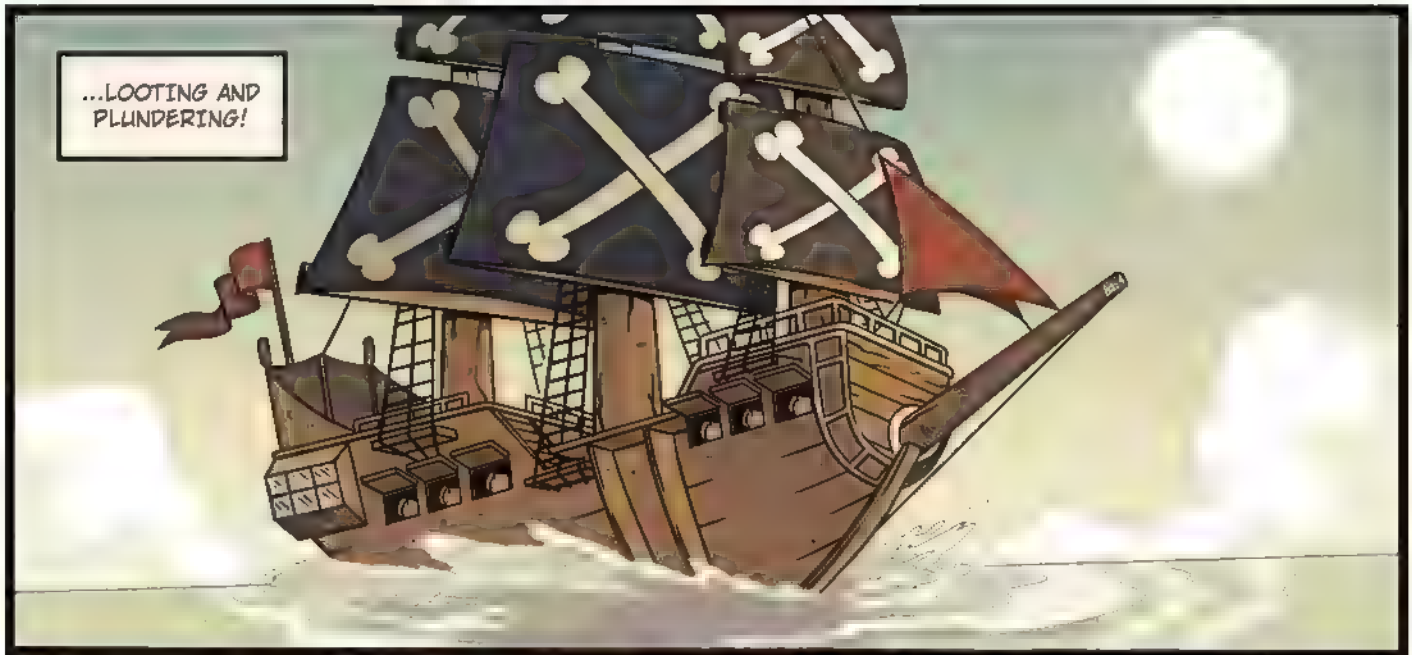


WHEN I
THINK OF ALL THE
DISAPPOINTMENTS...

ALL THE
FAILURES...

...THOSE
SUFFERING SQUEAKERS
DEPRIVING ME OF MY
GREATEST JOY...







CALCUTTA, FEBRUARY 28, 1797.
WE'VE ARRIVED AT FORT WILLIAM,
AND EVEN THOUGH I'VE TRIED TO
RAISE EVERYONE'S SPIRITS A LITTLE,
PESSIMISM REIGNS ONBOARD THE
GENERAL GODDARD.

WE'VE SENT A MESSAGE
TO THE COMPANY'S HIGH
COMMAND. THEY'LL SEE
US IN THE AFTERNOON. WE'LL
REPORT ON THE EVENTS THAT
TOOK PLACE ONBOARD AND
WILL TRY TO FIND A SOLUTION.

THE PIRATE CATS HAVE
NEVER BEEN MORE DANGEROUS.
THEY NEED TO BE STOPPED
BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE.

OVERLOOKING THE HUGLI RIVER,
A TRIBUTARY INTO THE MUCH MORE
FAMOUS GANGES, **FORT WILLIAM**
WAS LOCATED IN THE HEART
OF THE CITY OF CALCUTTA AND WAS
THE INDIAN HEADQUARTERS OF THE
BRITISH EAST INDIA COMPANY.

INSIDE FORT WILLIAM.

THEN WE AGREE.
I'LL EXPLAIN THE SITUATION,
AND THEN YOU'LL STEP IN
WITH YOUR PROPOSAL.

AGREED.

MEANWHILE,
WE'LL SEARCH FOR
THE INFORMATION
YOU ASKED FOR.

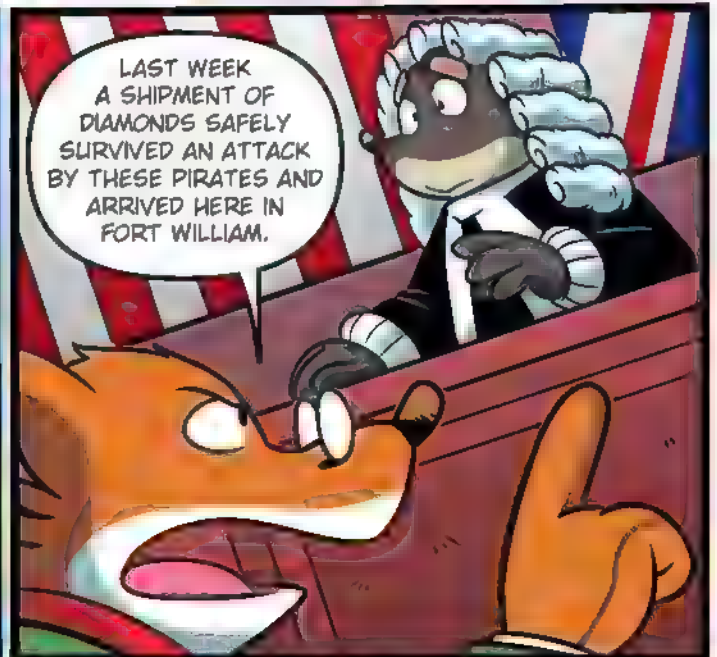
GOOD,
BUT DO IT
QUICKLY.

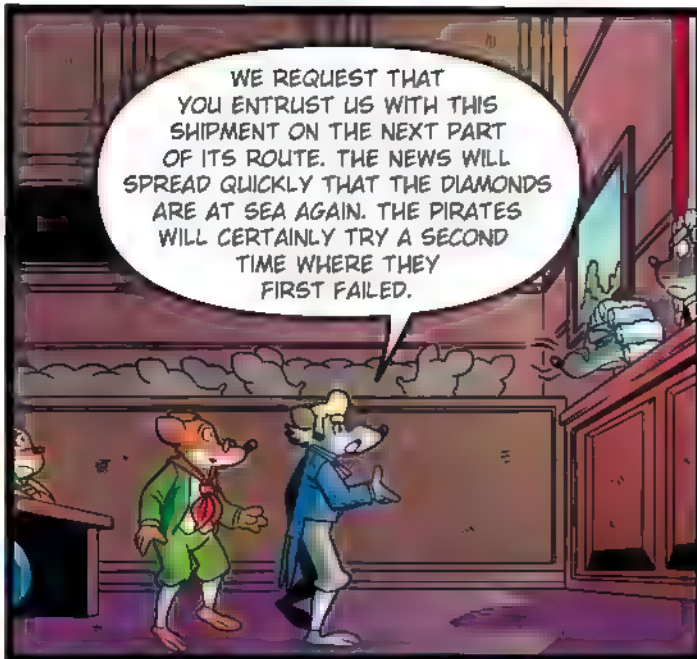
LET'S
HOPE FOR THE
BEST!

STEP
FORWARD,
PLEASE.

→GULP!←

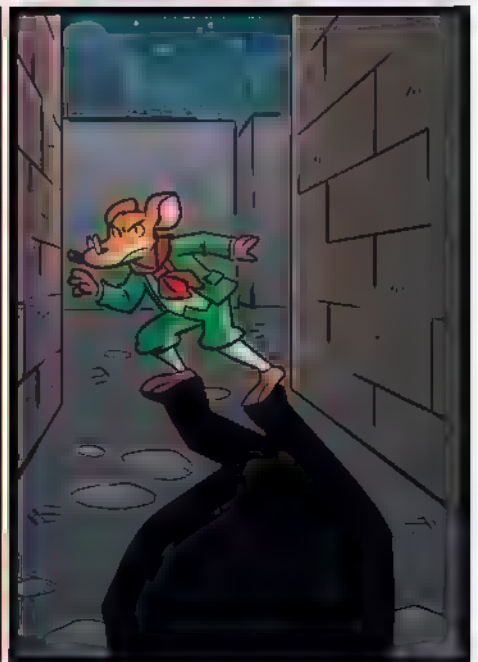


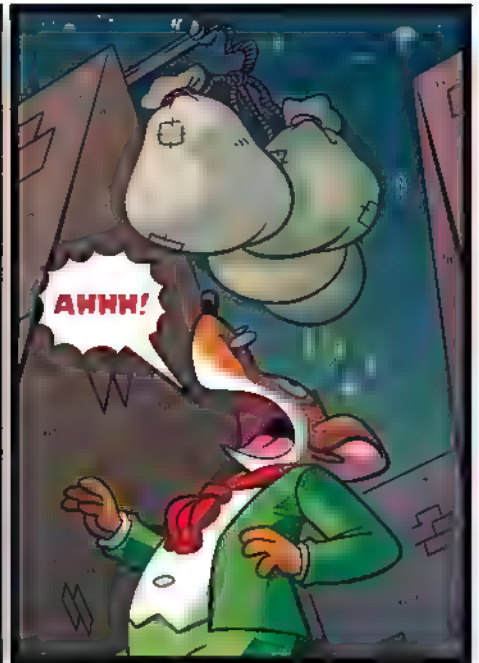












THE GENERAL GODDARD IS ALMOST READY TO LEAVE, ONLY A FEW PREPARATIONS ARE STILL LEFT. WE SAIL FOR PENANG TO DELIVER OUR CARGO. BUT I PREDICT CATARDONE WILL ATTACK US BEFORE THEN.



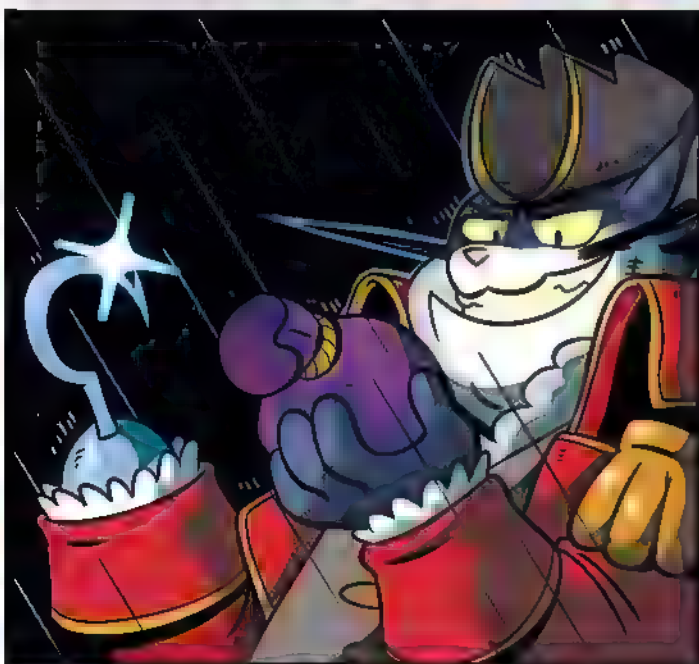
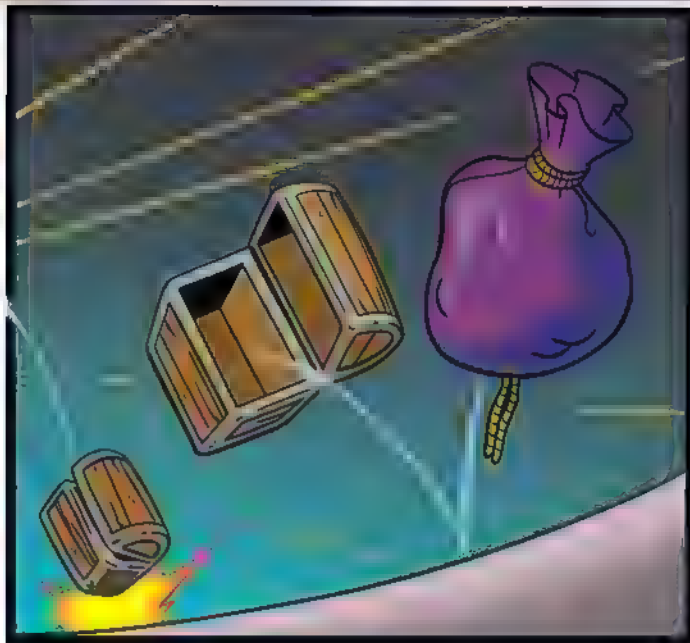
I NOTIFIED GRAHAM THAT THE PIRATES KNOW ABOUT BOTH OUR CARGO AND TRAP'S CHALLENGE. HE DIDN'T SEEM VERY WORRIED. I THINK THAT HE, TOO, WANTS TO RECOVER HIS HONOR, AFTER LOSING THE ROUTE REGISTER.



IN THE MEANTIME, THE DAYS PASS BY PEACEFULLY. THE LOOKOUT WATCHES ARE ATTENTIVE. SOME SAILORS ARE STILL IN A GOOD MOOD, WHICH MAKES THE LONG WAIT BEFORE BEING RAIDED EASIER, EVEN IF WE STILL CAN'T FIGURE OUT HOW THE PIRATES CAN ATTACK WITHOUT EVER BEING SPOTTED.









IT LOOKS TO ME LIKE
IT'S JUST US. THE CREW
ARE ALL BUSY PUTTING
OUT THE FIRE!

BUT HOW
DID YOU DO IT?
WE CHECKED, AND
THERE WAS NO ONE
HERE BEFORE
THE FIRE!

VERY SIMPLE...
THE CATJET TRAVELS
THROUGH TIME AND SPACE.
WE TRANSPORTED THROUGH
BOTH AT ONCE TO GET INTO
THE SHIP'S STORES.

WHEN WE DIDN'T FIND
THE DIAMONDS THERE, WE
SET THE FIRE TO DISTRACT
YOU WHILE WE GOT INTO
THE CAPTAIN'S CABIN.

THAT'S WHY
NONE OF THE LOOKOUTS
SPOTTED YOU! YOU
TIME-TRAVELED RIGHT
INTO THE SHIPS!

BUT THIS
TIME, WE'RE
HERE!

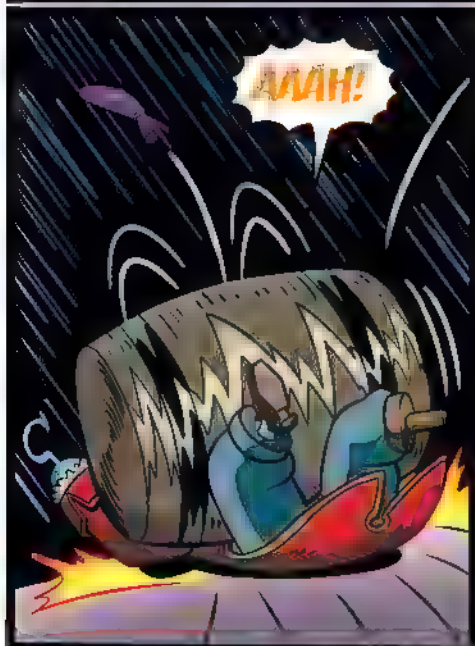
HAHHHH!

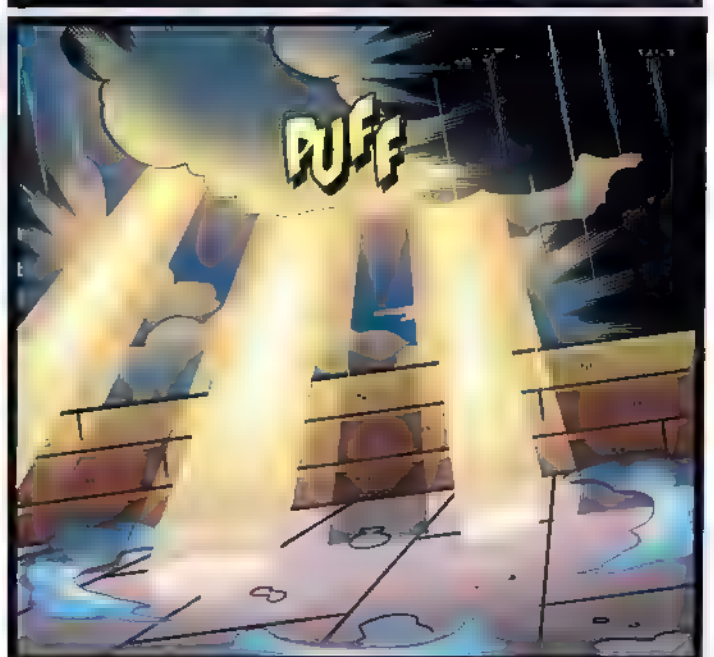
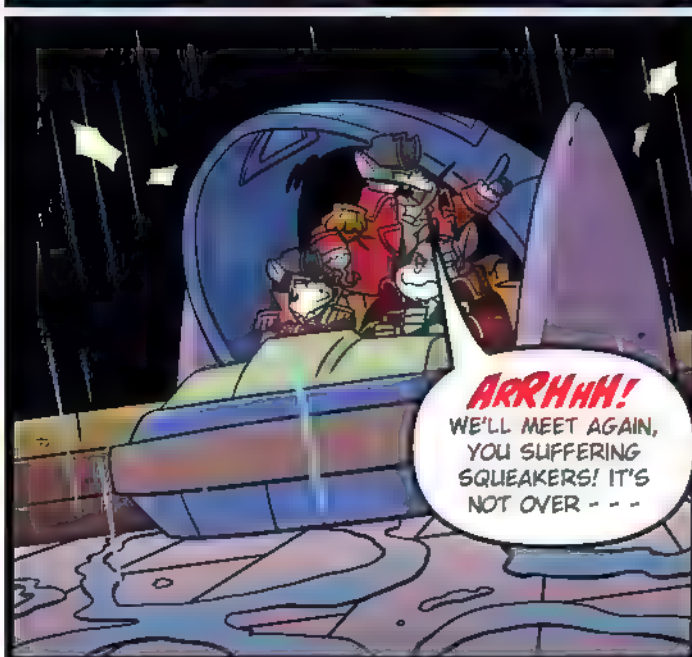
-OOOF!

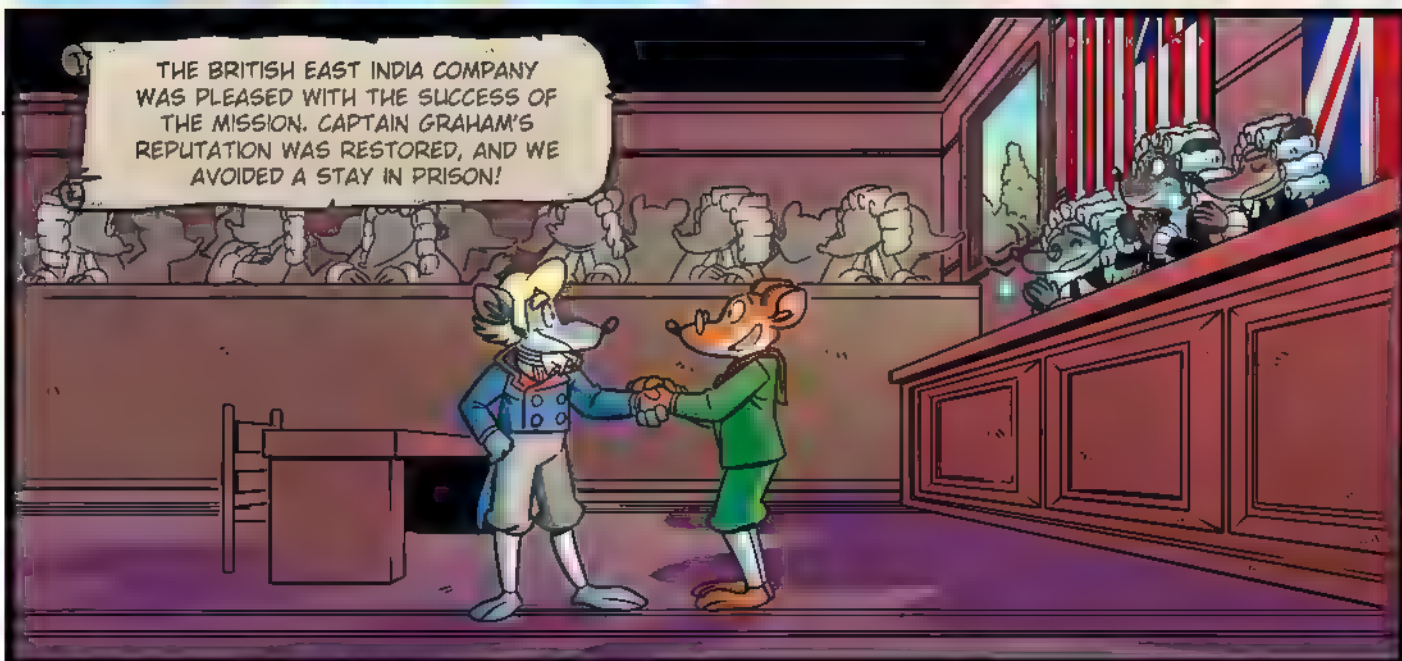
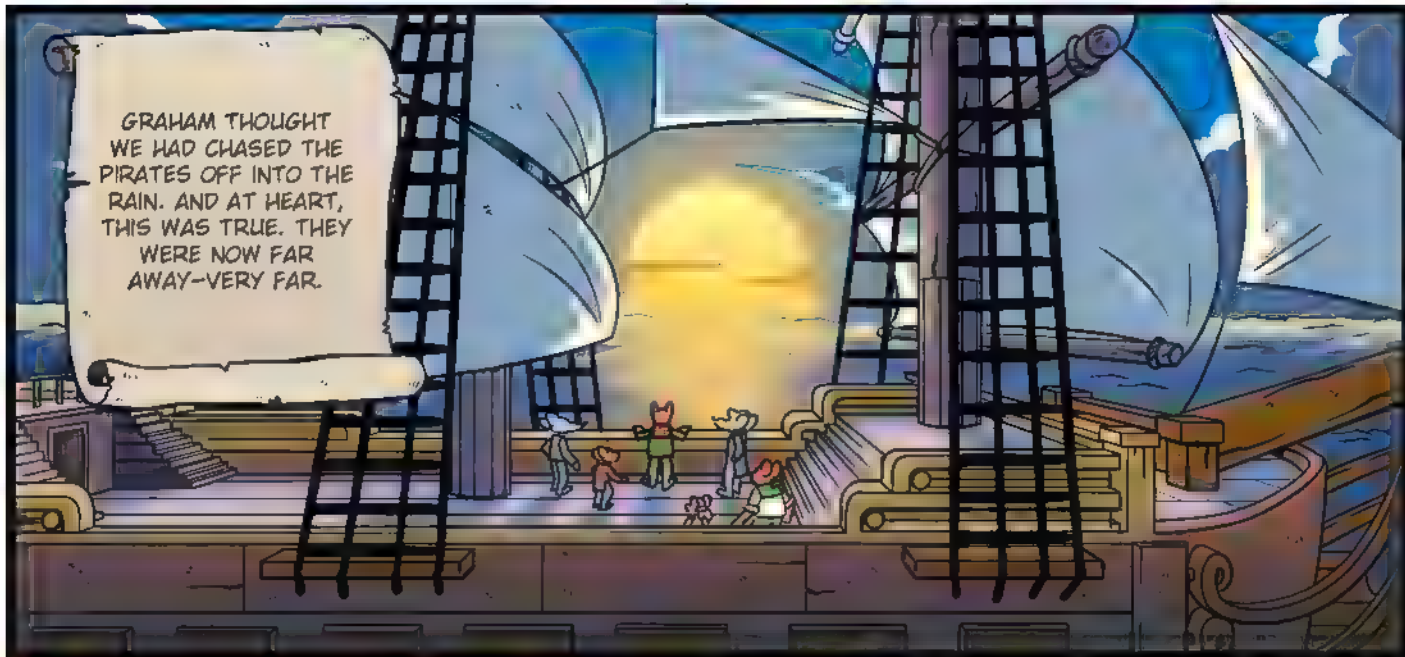


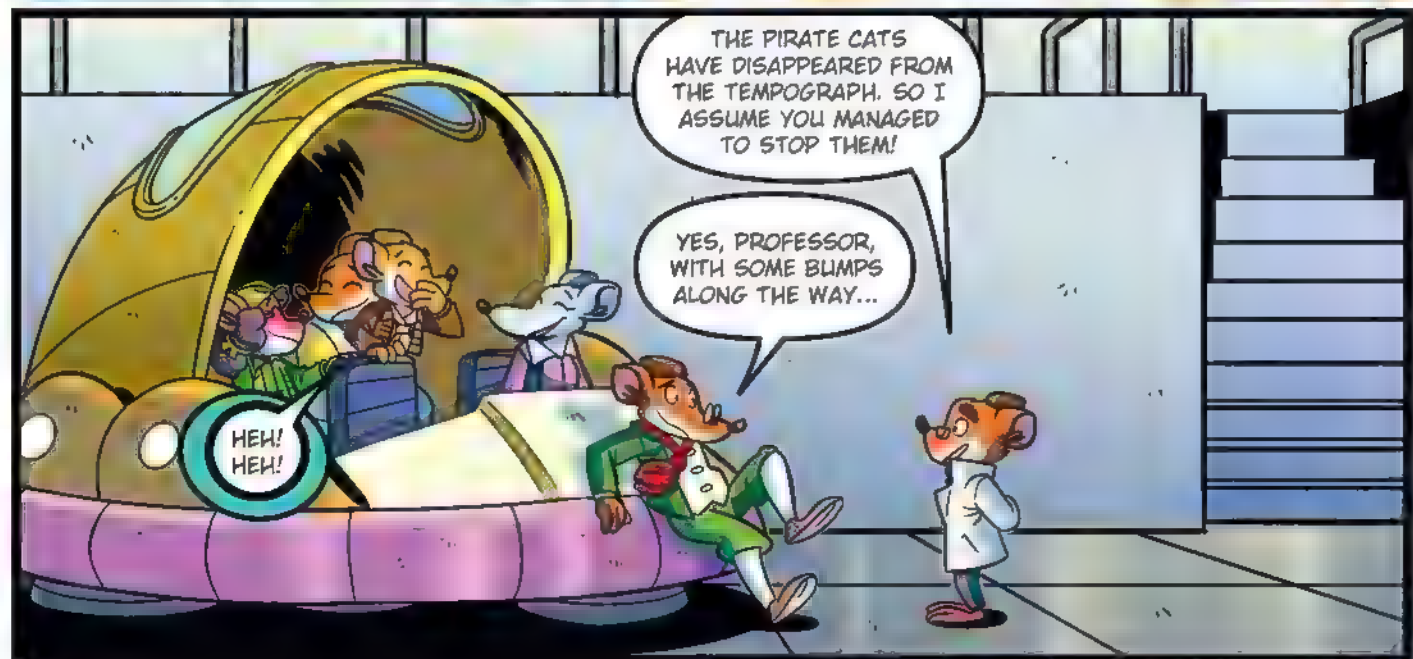














Watch Out For PAPERCUTZ™



Welcome to the swashbuckling, sea-faring, seventeenth GERONIMO STILTON graphic novel, by Leonardo Favia, Francesco Savino, and Ryan Jampole—from Papercutz, those landlubbers dedicated to publishing great graphic novels for all ages. I'm Salicrup, *Jim Salicrup*, the Editor-in-Chief and Chief Deck-Swabber. If you're looking at a digital edition of this graphic novel, we hope it's an authorized version and not a . . . ahem . . . pirated edition.

For all you sharp-eyed Geronimo Stilton fans who carefully study page 4—the copyright page—of each GERONIMO STILTON graphic novel, you'll already know that starting from our first graphic novel we've been republishing material that was created and originally published in Italy. That's not uncommon for Papercutz; we publish English-language editions of many European graphic novels—THE SMURFS, DISNEY FAIRIES, THE SISTERS, ARIOL, DANCE CLASS, just to name a few. But something happened recently: We ran out of GERONIMO STILTON graphic novels. We published every single one that had been produced in Italy, and there weren't any left!

What were we to do? Unlike Geronimo, I don't have access to a time machine. No Speedrat, no Catjet, not even a second-hand TARDIS or a DeLorean. So, zipping back to the future to bring those future GERONIMO STILTON graphic novels to the present isn't going to happen.

But we did come up with a wonderful solution! (I told you we'd have a big announcement coming in this graphic novel!) We've hired two of Geronimo Stilton's favorite writers, Leonardo Favia and Francesco Savino, to continue doing what they've been doing all along—taking Geronimo's stories and turning them into comics. Our translator Nanette McGuinness translates those scripts into English, and editor Carol Burrell passes the edited scripts to artist

Ryan Jampole. And Presto! We have all-new, never seen anywhere else on Earth GERONIMO STILTON graphic novels! We never could've done this without the help of our good friends at Atlantya, the wonderful folks who keep a close eye on everything featuring GERONIMO STILTON, to assure that it meets Geronimo's high standards of excellence. Gee, with Leonardo and Francesco working in Italy, and Nanette, Carol, and Ryan (as well as the letterers and colorists) working in the USA and Canada, this has become quite an international enterprise.

But that's not all! As you can tell by the cover of this very graphic novel, we're also updating our covers to look more like the new GEROMINO STILTON books coming out from our good friends at Scholastic.

Wait! There's still more! The same team we've assembled to do all-new GERONIMO STILTON graphic novels is also creating all-new THEA STILTON graphic novels as well! Just take a look on the following pages and check out the special preview of THEA STILTON #5 "The Secret of the Waterfall in the Woods." And don't forget to look for GERONIMO STILTON #18, coming soon to booksellers everywhere! Geronimo Stilton and his crew continue to save the future, by protecting the past!

See you in the future!

Jim



STAY IN TOUCH!

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Special Preview of THEA STILTON Graphic Novel #5 "The Secret of the Waterfall in the Woods"





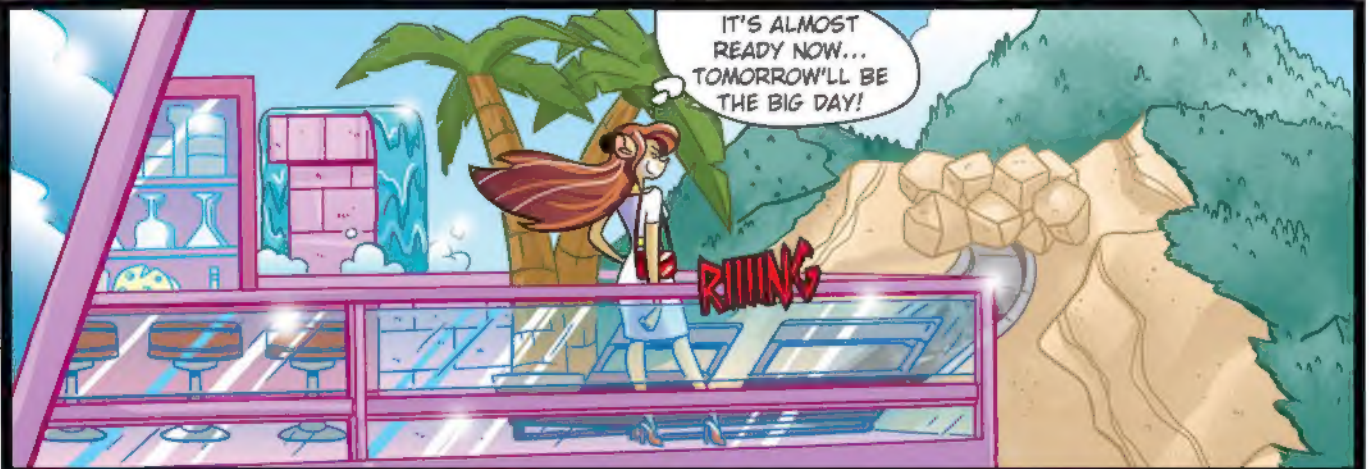


WHAT THE THEA SISTERS, PROF. VAN KRAKEN, AND THE OTHER STUDENTS DON'T KNOW IS THAT ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE MOUNTAIN, VANILLA'S MOTHER, **VISSIA DE VISSSEN**, IS WINDING UP THE FINAL ARRANGEMENTS IN HER PLAN FOR BECOMING EVEN RICHER AND MORE FAMOUS!

WHEN THE MAYOR OF *Whale Island* GAVE ME PERMISSION TO BUILD THIS HOTEL, HE CERTAINLY COULDN'T HAVE KNOWN WHAT I HAD IN MIND...



IT'S ALMOST READY NOW... TOMORROW'LL BE THE BIG DAY!



VANILLA, DEAR... TELL ME YOU'VE HAVE GOOD NEWS TO REPORT TO YOUR MOM!



OH, YES...I'M SURE THAT WITH YOUR TALENTS YOU'LL BE ABLE TO MAKE THIS BENEFIT THE DE VISSSEN FAMILY...



Don't Miss THEA STILTON Graphic Novel #5 "The Secret of the Waterfall in the Woods"!

Protecting the past, to save the future!



GERONIMO STILTON IS THE EDITOR OF THE *RODENT'S GAZETTE*, THE MOST FAMOUSE PAPER ON MOUSE ISLAND. IN HIS FREE TIME HE LOVES TO TELL FUN, HAPPY STORIES. IN THIS ADVENTURE, GERONIMO HAS TO FACE HIS WORST ENEMIES, THE PIRATE CATS, WHO HAVE DISCOVERED A WAY TO TRAVEL BACK IN TIME AND CHANGE HISTORY...

A GHOST SHIP IS HAUNTING THE HIGH SEAS, SCUTTling THE TRADE ROUTES OF BRITAIN'S EAST INDIA COMPANY BACK IN 1796. BUT GERONIMO STILTON SUSPECTS WHAT'S REALLY AFLOAT: THE PIRATE CATS ARE DOING WHAT THEY DO BEST...BEING PIRATES! IT'S UP TO GERONIMO AND HIS FRIENDS TO SIGN ON AS SAILORS AND TRY TO END THE PIRATICAL PILLAGING. WILL CATARDONE III AND HIS SCURVY CREW SINK THE MIGHTY FLEET THAT RULED THE WAVES? OR WILL GERONIMO GET HIS SEA LEGS IN TIME TO STOP THE CATS FROM CHANGING HISTORY FOREVER?



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